



## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2022-0824; Airspace Docket No. 21-ASO-33]

RIN 2120-AA66

### **Proposed Amendment and Revocation of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Southeastern and Northeastern United States**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking.

**SUMMARY:** This action proposes to amend Area Navigation (RNAV) route Q-81 to realign a portion of the route to improve traffic flows, and to remove Canadian RNAV route Q-947 at the request of NavCanada. These changes would support the Northeast Corridor Atlantic Coast Route Project.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on this proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590; telephone: 1 (800) 647-5527 or (202) 366-9826. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2022-0824; Airspace Docket No. 21-ASO-33 at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments through the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FAA Order JO 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at [http://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/). For further information, you can contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Gallant, Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington,

DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **Authority for this Rulemaking**

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of the airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it expands the availability of RNAV routes in the National Airspace System, increases airspace capacity, and reduces complexity in high air traffic volume areas.

### **Comments Invited**

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proposed rulemaking by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Comments that provide the factual basis supporting the views and suggestions presented are particularly helpful in developing reasoned regulatory decisions on the proposal. Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, aeronautical, economic, environmental, and energy-related aspects of the proposal.

Communications should identify both docket numbers (FAA Docket No. FAA-2022-0824; Airspace Docket No. 21-ASO-33) and be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Management Facility (see “**ADDRESSES**” section for address and phone number). You may also submit comments through the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments on this action must submit with those comments a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: “Comments to FAA Docket No. FAA-2022-0824; Airspace Docket No. 21-ASO-33.” The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter.

All communications received on or before the specified comment closing date will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposal contained in this action may be changed in light of comments received. All comments submitted will be available for examination in the public docket both before and after the comment closing date. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

### **Availability of NPRM**

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the Internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Recently published rulemaking documents can also be accessed through the FAA's web page at [https://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/airspace\\_amendments/](https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/airspace_amendments/). You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office (see "**ADDRESSES**" section for address and phone number) between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, Room 210, 1701 Columbia Ave., College Park, GA, 30337.

### **Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference**

This document proposes to amend FAA Order JO 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, issued August 10, 2021, and effective September 15, 2021. FAA Order JO 7400.11F is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this proposed rule. FAA Order JO 7400.11F lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

### **The Proposal**

The FAA is proposing an amendment to 14 CFR part 71 to modify Q-81 in the southeastern United States, and removing Canadian route Q-947 in the northeastern United States.

**Q-81:** Q-81 currently extends from the TUNSL, FL., waypoint (WP), to the HONID, GA, WP. This proposal would amend the current route segments between the FIPES, OG, WP and the FARLU, FL, WP, by removing the THMPR, FL, WP and the LEEHI, FL, WP, and inserting the ZEILR, FL, Fix, and the PIKKR, OG, WP. The effect of this change would be to realign the track of Q-81 by between one nautical mile (NM) and 10.5 NM to the west of its current path. This change would assist with traffic flow, conflict avoidance, and prevent excessive coordination for air traffic controllers. In addition, the FAA proposes to remove the following WPs from the legal description of Q-81: MGNTY, FL; BITNY, OG; SNAPY, FL; and IPOKE, GA. Because they do not denote a route turn point, these WPs are not required to be included in the Q-81 legal description. However, these points will continue to be depicted on the IFR En Route charts because they are used for air traffic control purposes. The proposed full route description of Q-81 is set out in the amendments to part 71 below.

The abbreviation "OG" is used in place of a state abbreviation for the FIPES, PIKKR, and BITNY WPs. OG means "Offshore Gulf of Mexico" indicating that those points overlie international waters.

This action also proposes to remove portions of Canadian RNAV route Q-947.

**Q-947:** Segments of Q-947 extend from the REVEN, Canada, WP; to the TOPPS, ME, WP; to the CUZWA, ME, WP; then back into Canada at the DUVOK, Canada, WP. NavCanada requested that these segments be removed due to potential conflicts with aircraft departures from Halifax, Nova Scotia (YHZ).

United States Area Navigation Routes are published in paragraph 2006 and Canadian Area Navigation Routes are published in paragraph 2007 of FAA Order JO 7400.11F, dated August 10, 2021, and effective September 15, 2021, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. RNAV routes listed in this document would be subsequently published in and removed from FAA Order JO 7400.11.

FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, is published yearly and effective on September 15.

### **Regulatory Notices and Analyses**

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore: (1) is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a "significant rule" under Department of Transportation (DOT) Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February 26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

### **Environmental Review**

This proposal will be subject to an environmental analysis in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, "Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures" prior to any FAA final regulatory action.

### **List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71**

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

### **The Proposed Amendment**

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

#### **PART 71--DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS**

1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g); 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

#### **§71.1 [Amended]**

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order JO 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 10, 2021 and effective September 15, 2021, is amended as follows:

**Paragraph 2006 United States Area Navigation Routes.**

\* \* \* \*

**Q-81 TUNSL, FL to HONID, GA [Amended]**

TUNSL, FL	WP	(lat. 24°54'02.43"N., long. 081°31'02.80"W.)
KARTR, FL	FIX	(lat. 25°29'45.76"N., long. 081°30'46.24"W.)
FIPES, OG	WP	(lat. 25°41'30.15"N., long. 081°37'13.79"W.)
ZEILR, FL	WP	(lat. 26°38'13.17"N., long. 082°22'27.71"W.)
PIKKR, OG	WP	(lat. 26°56'24.43"N., long. 082°41'25.28"W.)
FARLU, FL	WP	(lat. 27°45'32.56"N., long. 082°50'43.77"W.)
ENDEW, FL	WP	(lat. 28°18'01.73"N., long. 082°55'56.70"W.)
NICKI, FL	WP	(lat. 29°15'20.19"N., long. 083°20'31.80"W.)
BULZI, FL	WP	(lat. 30°22'24.93"N., long. 084°04'34.47"W.)
HONID, GA	WP	(lat. 31°38'50.31"N., long. 084°23'42.60"W.)

\* \* \* \*

**Paragraph 2007 Canadian Area Navigation Routes.**

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**Q-947 [Remove]**

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Issued in Washington, DC, on July 6, 2022.

Scott M. Rosenbloom,  
Manager, Airspace Rules and Regulations.  
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